

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 26 with the following:

FIG. 5 is a side sectional view taken along line A-A 5-5 in FIG. 4;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 29 with the following:

As can be seen in FIGS. 1 and 2, the impeller 200 of this embodiment is approximately cylindrical in shape and includes a media opening 210 at one end adapted to receive blast media from a feed spout 205. The other end of impeller 200 of the illustrated embodiment is connected to a rear wheel 610, which in turn is connected to motor 500, in this embodiment by a cap screw ~~250~~ 252. In other embodiments of the invention, the impeller 200 may have other shapes, and may, for example, have interior or exterior walls that taper in either direction along its axis. The size and thickness of the impeller will vary depending on the size of the blast wheel assembly and the desired performance characteristics. Typically, the impeller will be made of a ferrous material, such as cast or machined iron or steel, although other materials may also be appropriate. In one particular embodiment, the impeller is formed of cast white iron.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7 with the following:

Control cage 300 of this embodiment also includes an outer flange 310 that mates with adaptor plate ~~350~~ 352, which in turn mates with housing 400, fixing the control cage 300 with respect to the housing 400 and preventing it from rotating upon operation of the blast wheel assembly 1. In other embodiments, the control cage 300 may be restrained from movement by attachment to other stationary elements of the blast wheel assembly 1 or its environment, or, in some cases, may be allowed to or made to rotate in one or both directions. As seen in FIG. 4, control cage 300 may have markings 320 or other indicia that allow a user to position the control cage 300 in a certain desired rotational orientation, so as to control the direction of the media being thrown by the blast wheel assembly.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 26 with the following:

A channel is constructed between the control cage and the impeller to improve the flow of abrasive from the impeller 200 to the hell ends of the vanes ~~600~~ 630 and thereby increase the efficiency of the blast wheel assembly 1. The use of a channel allows for increased efficiency while at the same time maintaining the working diameters of the control cage 300 and the impeller 200.